

An individual who has made a direct humanitarian contribution to society in the realm of hearing is honored with the Humanitarian Award. Recipients must demonstrate direct and outstanding service to humanity in ways that are related to hearing, hearing disability or deafness.



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Dr. Jackie Clark has been the consummate professional in her role as a faculty member at the University of Texas at Dallas. Yet, her time and energy have not been confined to the university or to the state of Texas. Since 1998, Dr. Clark has provided consistent and outstanding audiologic services to children and adults with hearing impairment in Mozambique, Africa. She has planned, overseen and led teams of volunteers to Mozambique every year for the past eight years. She and her team have provided hearing screenings and evaluations, donated hearing aids to those in need, donated audiologic test equipment to clinics to continue providing audiologic care, and perhaps, most importantly, training to the local medical personnel. Local physicians, nurses, medical technicians, and social workers have been trained and continue to be trained in the areas of hearing disorders, otoscopy, audiologic testing, hearing aid troubleshooting and maintenance. With each return visit, Dr. Clark brings more donated hearing aids and batteries/supplies, more audiologic test equipment, and additional training and knowledge to the local staff. It is her belief that the training will empower the community to become more self-sufficient in the area of hearing health care. Last year, she and her team, including professionals from

five different countries, directed the first large scale hearing screening of 1177 children from a Mozambique school. She often presents short courses/symposia in the areas of infant hearing screening, ototoxicity monitoring, otoacoustic emissions, and pediatric audiology, at no charge to the hosting facilities in different parts of Africa. The quality of her work is an example to the world of how audiologists should function and why audiologists should be a vital member of the health care team. Dr. Clark's humanitarian efforts, however, are not limited to Africa. Closer to home, she has been active member of the Healthy Hearing Program of the Special Olympics in Texas. This program provides hearing screening at events sponsored by the Special Olympics. She has also served as the Ad Hoc Committee Chair of Humanitarian Audiologists within the International Society of Audiology. Her efforts to individuals with hearing loss nationally and internationally make her most deserving to receive the 2006 Humanitarian Award.